

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 076071
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-01 SS-15 SP-02 PRS-01 EB-08
INR-07 NSC-05 DODE-00 CIAE-00 /052 R

DRAFTED BY:EUR/EE:THGERTH/RN
APPROVED BY:EUR/EE:THGERTH
-----072327Z 110951 /63/62
P 052333Z APR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 076071

PLEASE PASS ASSTSEC HARTMAN

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (SUBJ LINE ADDED)

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: HU, PFOR

SUBJECT: CONGRESSWOMEN OAKAR'S INTEREST IN THE CROWN.

REF: STATE 74230

1. OUR RESPONSE TO REPRESENTATIVE OAKAR HAS NOW BEEN FULLY
CLEARED AND SIGNED.

2. REPRESENTATIVE OAKAR'S LETTER OF MARCH 30 TO MR. ARMITAGE
AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE DEAR MR. ARMITAGE: AS A REPRESENTATIVE
OF CLEVELAND, OHIO, THE HOME OF THE LARGEST HUNGARIAN-
AMERICAN COMMUNITY IN THE UNITED STATES, I AM WRITING TO
EXPRESS MY DEEP CONCERN OVER THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE UNITED
STATES MAY GIVE THE CROWN OF ST. STEPHEN TO THE HUNGARIAN
GOVERNMENT IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 076071

SO IMMEDIATE IS MY CONCERN THAT I WANTED TO OBTAIN A
STATEMENT OF THE POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES ON THIS MATTER
NOW. WITH SECRETARY VANCE AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN
NOW IN MOSCOW, I AM WRITING TO YOU FOR THIS PURPOSE.

I WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF YOU WOULD INFORM ME SPECIFICALLY

WHETHER THERE IS ANY POSSIBILITY THAT THE CROWN WILL BE GIVEN TO THE HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT IN THE NEAR FUTURE. I

REALIZE THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAS OFTEN STATED THE VERY GENERAL PROPOSITION THAT TRANSFER OF THE CROWN WILL BE CONSIDERED IN THE CONTEXT OF IMPROVED RELATIONS BETWEEN THE U.S. AND HUNGARY. IF RETURN OF THE CROWN IS IMPENDING, WOULD YOU PLEASE CITE THE IMPROVEMENTS IN RELATIONS THAT ARE THE BASIS FOR THIS ACTION.

IF ACTION ON IT IS NOT BEING CONTEMPLATED FOR THE NEAR FUTURE, I WOULD APPRECIATE A STATEMENT AS TO WHAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT VIEWS AS THE MAJOR OBSTACLES TO THE RETURN OF THE CROWN.

AS YOU KNOW, THE CROWN IS OF VAST SIGNIFICANCE TO THE MILLIONS OF AMERICANS OF HUNGARIAN DESCENT AND ALL OF THOSE WHO LONG FOR A FREE, INDEPENDENT HUNGARY. THE CROWN TRULY SYMBOLIZES AN INDEPENDENT HUNGARY, RULED BY A GOVERNMENT THAT HAS THE SUPPORT OF THE HUNGARIAN PEOPLE. I AM OPPOSED TO RETURNING THE CROWN NOW, AND I BELIEVE THE REASONS WHY IT SHOULD NOT BE RETURNED ARE FULLY APPARENT IN WHAT THE CROWN MEANS TO THE HUNGARIAN PEOPLE.

I AM HAVING THIS LETTER HAND DELIVERED TO YOUR OFFICE IN ORDER TO EXPEDITE A REPLY, AND I LOOK FORWARD TO RECEIVING AN IMMEDIATE REPLY.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH. MARY ROSE OAKAR UNQUOTE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 076071

3. REPLY DATED APRIL 5 FOLLOWS: QUOTE DEAR MISS OAKAR: THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER OF MARCH 30 ON THE CROWN OF ST. STEPHEN. WE REALIZE THAT THE HUNGARIAN PEOPLE AND THOSE OF HUNGARIAN DESCENT EVERYWHERE REGARD THE CROWN WITH GREAT ESTEEM. WE WELCOME YOUR VIEWS ON THIS IMPORTANT MATTER.

THERE ARE NO PRESENT PLANS TO RETURN THE CROWN TO HUNGARY. IT REMAINS THE POSITION OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT THAT THE QUESTION OF RETURN OF THE CROWN WILL BE ADDRESSED IN LIGHT OF IMPROVEMENT IN US-HUNGARIAN RELATIONS. WE HAVE SO INFORMED THE HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT IN REPLY TO ITS REQUEST FOR THE CROWN'S RETURN.

A REVIEW OF U.S.-HUNGARIAN RELATIONS OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS WOULD NOTE A NUMBER OF POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS. WE HAVE CONCLUDED A CONSULAR CONVENTION WHICH PERMITS US TO AFFORD PROPER PROTECTION TO U.S. CITIZENS VISITING HUNGARY.

WE HAVE SIGNED A CLAIMS AGREEMENT WHICH PROVIDES FINANCIAL BENEFITS TO MANY AMERICAN CITIZENS. AND WE ARE NEARING SIGNATURE OF A CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGES AGREEMENT

WHICH WILL HELP US TO BROADEN AND EXTEND USEFUL CONTACTS BETWEEN THE PEOPLES OF THE TWO COUNTRIES. THE HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT HAS MADE A SPECIAL EFFORT TO CLEAR AWAY ALL OUTSTANDING FINANCIAL ISSUES, INCLUDING PAYMENT LAST DECEMBER OF ITS SOLE REMAINING DEBT ARREARAGE TO THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT DATING FROM THE POST-WORLD WAR I PERIOD. WITHIN THE WARSAW PACT HUNGARY HAS TAKEN A GENERALLY POSITIVE ATTITUDE TOWARD THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FINAL ACT OF THE CONFERENCE ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE, INCLUDING ITS PROVISIONS CONCERNING FAMILY REUNIFICATION.

THERE REMAIN CERTAIN PROBLEMS INVOLVING U.S. GOVERNMENT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 STATE 076071

PROPERTY HOLDINGS IN HUNGARY ON WHICH WE CONTINUE TO WORK. THERE ARE ALSO OCCASIONAL DIVIDED FAMILIES CASES WHICH WE MUST TAKE UP WITH THE HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT, BUT THEY ARE NOT NUMEROUS AND THE HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN REASONABLY COOPERATIVE IN THESE CASES.

TRADE BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES HAS EXPANDED MODERATELY, BUT IS INHIBITED BY THE HUNGARIAN UNWILLINGNESS TO CONCLUDE A TRADE AGREEMENT WHICH WOULD CONFORM TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF TITLE IV OF THE TRADE ACT OF 1974. AS YOU ARE PROBABLY AWARE, THE ADMINISTRATION HAS NOT YET TAKEN A POSITION ON THE QUESTION OF THE JACKSON/VANIK AMENDMENT.

THESE, I BELIEVE, ARE THE MAJOR CONSIDERATIONS WHICH RELATE TO THE QUESTIONS POSED IN YOUR LETTER. SINCERELY
YOURS, JOHN A. ARMITAGE UNQUOTE.
VANCE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CULTURAL PROPERTY, PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 05-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE076071
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EUR/EE:THGERTH/RN
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770187-0080, D770119-0201
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770485/aaaacwew.tel
Line Count: 156
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c307efa9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 74230
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2889033
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONGRESSWOMEN OAKARI'S INTEREST IN THE CROWN.
TAGS: PFOR, HU, US, (VANIK, CHARLES A)
To: BUDAPEST
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c307efa9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009